Volume 28, Edition 7 July 2024

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS

From Over the Hill

—By Ed W1EJ

First, I will no longer whine about being the default or accidental president; but I will continue to grumble about the lack of net control volunteers. I intend to do some arm twisting to get new voices doing net control. It is easy, good practice, fun, and a way to get to know the names that go with the call signs. While I am at it, set an alert on your smart phone for Wednesdays at 7:29 PM, then turn on your radio tuned to 145.350 negative offset with PL tone of 88.5, then check in to our weekly net, except for meeting night.

Our monthly meeting, which was to be in person, has been changed to a ZOOM only meeting due to the high incidence of COVID in the community. The meeting information will be sent out the day before the July 17th session. Programs to be determined, suggestions are welcome.

The August program will be about building some antennas. In previous discussions there was interest in a portable tape measure beam or a roll up J-Pole. There will be enough materials to make several of them. I built one of each type and they work quite well; however, one of the two caused me to swear a lot.

NEXT MEETING

Wed, **July 17, 2024** at 7:30 PM

Zoom only. Information will be sent out the day before.

Topic: **To be determined, suggestions are welcome**

Minutes of the June 19, 2024 Meeting

ATTENDANCE: MEMBERS ONLINE: KG6QNT (Eileen), KB6CLV (Simon), KI6GS (Greta), N7PIB (Sanford), K6YD (Kevin), N6LY (Liz), KE6HID (Andrew), WB6TMH (Mike), N7TSQ (Joe)

IN PERSON: W1EJ (Ed), KD6FIL (Dave), KH6GJV (Bill), KM6DON (Wendy), WD6BOR (Darrel), NJ6E (Stan), N6TTV (Carl), KO6DXF (Don), W8EWL (John), W6MOM (Carla)

Meeting called to order at 1930

Adopt meeting minutes as published in newsletter? Motion made and seconded- Minutes approved as written.

OFFICER REPORTS

NEWSLETTER- Eileen, KG6QNT- Keep sending in news items

ACS – Moe, KI6JNU- KD6FIL Reporting: June 26 is the Golden Eagle Training Exercise. Contact KI6MSP to sign up. There will be a Quarterly Radio Test on July 8.

VE LIASON- Elizabeth, N6LY. Next test session will be July 27.

RADIO OFFICER- Mike, WB6TMH- The clubs TS590 checked out and was tested by N6TTV. It is ready for field day. Currently stored at the Sonoma EOC.

TRUSTEE- Darrel, WD6BOR- Looking forward to Field Day

SECRETARY/TREASURER- Dave, KD6FIL- $5,047.36 in the bank, after purchasing 2 Eco Worthy 100 AmpHour LiPo batteries, a charger and a solar controller for $435.34. Just in time to charge and use for Field Day!

VICE PRESIDENT- VACANT (no call) How do we fill this position?

PRESIDENT- Ed, W1EJ- Field Day is next!

OLD BUSINESS- Purchased 2 batteries, charger and solar controller. See Treasurer's Report

NEW BUSINESS: Topics for upcoming meetings. Fox hunt, antenna projects – roll up j-pole from twin lead-use RG174 feed with an SMA connector- HF End Fed ½ wave similar to ARRL kit -https://www.arrl.org/end-fed-half-wave-antenna-kit – Tape Measure VHF Beam for fox hunting.

KO6DXF donated 40ft of LMR400 coax to the club.

MEETING TOPIC- Field Day

NEXT MONTH – TBD – Bring your handheld VHF radio for fox hunting.

Mystery Box went to W8EWL

—Submitted by Dave KD6FIL

VE Liaison News

—By Elizabeth N6LY

Looking to upgrade or join the Ham Radio Hobby? Come test with us.

Our next testing session will be on Saturday, July 27.

Sponsor: Valley of the Moon ARC
When: Saturday, July 27
Time: 10:00 AM
Reservations required.
Contact: Elizabeth Morris-Mowrey (N6LY)

Email: n6ly.emm@gmail.com

Location: Sonoma Police Department EOC, Sonoma CA 95476

If you are testing for a new license, you will be required to pay a $35 fee to the FCC, in addition to the fee below. Once you pass the test, the FCC will send you an email with a link to pay the fee. You will need to send in payment in order to receive your license and call sign.

This does not apply to upgrades.

Candidate Requirements:

- A photo identification or (2) non-photo ID's
- FCC Registration Number
- Original and a photocopy of your current license (if licensed)
- Any original valid CSCEs and a photocopy of each
- Exam fee is $15.00, Under 18 is $5.00

Why Test With Us?

Every candidate who takes an FCC examination with VOMARC is entitled to a free year of membership in the club, regardless of whether you pass or not! Each applicant is also provided with a welcome kit of some helpful information on how to get started on their Amateur Radio adventure.

20th Century Radio

In May,my wife Penny and I were on vacation in Switzerland and Germany. Near Konz, Germany, we visited a history museum that included several displays of actual stores from the mid 20th century that had existed in the area. They were set up to look as though they were frozen in time. Here are a couple of photos of those stores that had a radio or electronics focus.

Note all of the Lorenz vacuum tubes. Lorenz was a German electronics company that, among other things, developed the Lorenz Beam (radio navigation system) and the ferrite loop antenna.

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

Misc

Scientists invent a Smartphone chip that can peer through barriers using electromagnetic waves.

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

CQ FIELD DAY CQ FIELD DAY

—By Ed W1EJ

After hearing that phrase in voice or CW for twenty-four hours I start hearing it coming from some inanimate object and a radio is nowhere around. A ham radio ear worm or something from a Stephen King story? No, just an old brain failing to reset after having a fun time. I hope everyone had as much fun as I did.

We started out on Friday setting up the club trailer and the tri band beam antenna to give us a head start for Saturday. The crew showed up early Saturday to set up the military tower with another tri bander (thanks Carl) and the Windom strung between the two towers. Radios, shelters, filters, batteries, solar panels, computers for logging, and a network to tie the computers together. A lot of work but they got it done, mostly without my help due to a home obligation. I don't remember if we were on the air by 11AM but it was close, and earlier than last year for sure.

Things went smoothly for the rest of the day with only a few minor glitches. I was able to work CW for a few hours until dinner which satisfied my Morse craving. I heard Carl on the other station with a beam, cranking out the contacts, and the center station using the Windom was great on SSB. It was tough giving up all that fun to break for dinner but somehow, we managed.

What a feast. Darrel (WD6BOR) outdid himself at the barbecue, tasty chicken, succulent sausages, and even a few burgers by request. Others brought some great salads, side dishes, and desserts. Unfortunately, some forgetful person left the great cheesecake they made at home. Oops.

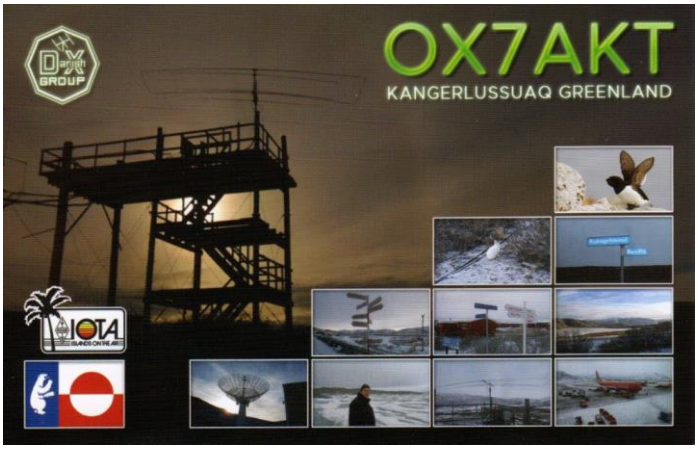
Carl (N6TTV) volunteered to spend the night and others stayed very late I know Don (KO6DXF) and Greta (KJ6GS) were there operating and perhaps others, but I snuck out and went home.

—Photo by Dave KD6FIL

Early Sunday morning there were visitors from outer (air) space. A hot air balloon floating by with people calling down to us "CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day", no not another earworm. Some of the people on board were hams from the Philippines. After landing they came by the site to introduce themselves and to chat. An exchange of QSL cards was promised.

A few more hours of operating and it was over. I managed to work Hawaii Alaska and my last contact was with Chile. The best part for me was getting some newer folks on the air making contacts. We had a good score, whatever it was, and Dave submitted our report to the ARRL. I can't wait until next year.

QSL Card Inbox



QSL Card Inbox (*Continued*)

I've worked and confirmed several QSOs with stations in Greenland before. But this contact with OX7AKT was the first to confirm a QSO using FT8. It was made using 30M from my modest home station.

Here's another country that I've worked before. This contact with A35GC was with FT8 and done from my home station. Tonga is located in the Pacific Ocean. This took place on 20M.

I worked 8Q7RM on 40M using FT8. This contact with the Maldives is an All Time New One (ATNO) for me. It's also my one and only contact with the country off the coast of India.

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 28 EDITION 7

A PUBLICATION OF VOMARC, THE VALLEY OF THE MOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Ed Jacobson, W1EJ – President

– Vice President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL – Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Moe Llanes, KI6JNU – ACS Unit Leader

Elizabeth Morris-Mowrey, N6LY – VE Liaison

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Editor

Robert Barron, KA5WSS — Webmeister

"Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC. "—S. Marler

WEB PAGE: **http://www.vomarc.org/**

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

Breakfast Nets are held every Tuesday and Saturday morning at 7:30 AM on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

—or—

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.
C/O Sonoma Police Department
175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476

ACS

NET CONTROL ASSIGNMENTS

	Name	Call
JANUARY	MOE	KI6JNU
FEBRUARY	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
MARCH	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
APRIL	JIM	K6UUW
MAY	DICK	KF6FZM
JUNE	MOE	KI6JNU
JULY		
AUGUST	BILL	KJ6EIG
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

VOMARC

NET CONTROL ASSIGNMENTS

	Name	Call
JANUARY	ROBERT	KA5WSS
FEBRUARY	DARREL	WD6BOR
MARCH	MOE	KI6JNU
APRIL	DAVE	KD6FIL
MAY	ED	W1EJ
JUNE	FRANK	KG6N
JULY	ED	W1EJ
AUGUST	CARL	N6TTV
SEPTEMBER	ED	WIEJ
OCTOBER	JOHN	W8EWL
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2024

Membership Dues: $15/year individual; $5/year family member at same address.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC Membership: Complimentary with Class—Date: _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen:

Dues may be mailed to VOMARC in care of the Sonoma Police Department, 175 1st St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC.**